

Franklin Summer Academy

June 16 - June 19, 2009

Note: If you haven't created a Google Account yet, go to <http://google.com/accounts> and create one!

Wikis & Blogs

Presented by: Chad Kafka

- **Learning Targets:**

- Understand what the terms wiki and blog mean.
- Explore current wiki and blog sites and evaluate how these tools could be used in your classroom.
- Create a wiki and/or blog
- Practice embedding content in wiki and/or blog

BLOGS



Blog

short for "web log"

You (or students) get
to be the publisher

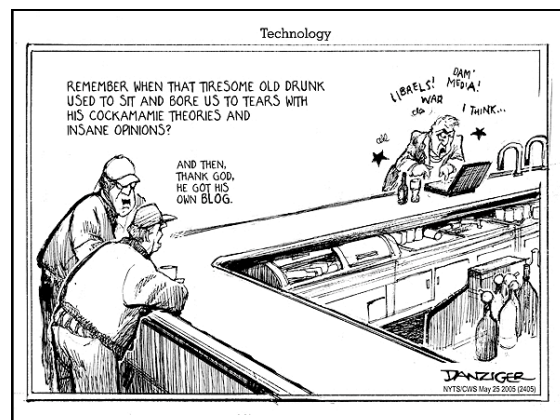
*Each entry is a
POST*

*Organized
Chronologically
(newest posts at
top)*

*Blogs allow for
embedding
WIDGETS*

Widget
*Term for “web
gadget”*

*If you like a blog,
you can subscribe
to or “follow” that
blog*



How can BLOGS be used in education?

- Summer Academy wiki (*Tech Tools → Wikis & Blogs*)
- 1. Under the **RESEARCH** section, pick 2 articles or websites to read
 - Write down ways blogs are used and that you could use with your classroom or this Unit Plan
- 2. Then, pick 3 blogs under **BLOGS TO CRITIQUE**
 - Write down things you like/don't like for each

We will share as a group

Try out a Blog

- Go to <http://google.com/blogger>
- Sign in with Google Account info
- Try it out – create a post or two or three!
- Other Features:
 - Adding Pictures from Picasa (Google's Photo site)
 - Embed other widgets ("web gadgets")
 - Follow other blogs of interest to you
 - Allow for comments to your posts
 - Comment on another's blog in class!

EMBEDDING WIDGETS



WIKIS



Wiki

- "A collaborative website which can be directly edited by anyone with access to it"
- All members can "edit" the content on the wiki



Using Wikis in Education

Widgets

- What is a widget?
 - Short for “window gadget”
 - A small program or interactive piece to a webpage
 - Big on MySpace and Facebook
 - Examples: video, audio, slideshows, games, calendar, poll, chat window, document, bookmarks, map
- Putting a widget on a page is known as embedding
- Example: This page has a video embedded



Embedding Widgets

- When editing a page, place the cursor where you want the widget to go
- On your Editor bar, click the TV icon
- Click the widget you want to add
- Some widgets just need you to copy & paste a link
- Some need you to copy and paste an “embed” code....



PLAY TIME

- Tip: Use FIREFOX when editing a wiki! (Safari sometimes gets glitchy!)
 - Mac: Open a Finder Window. Go to Applications and find FireFox
 - PC: Internet Explorer is fine
- Go to <http://chadkafka.wikispaces.com>
 - (Note: This wiki is completely OPEN so you don't have to “join” or login!)
- You have a page already created! ☺
- On your page, practice embedding objects related to your topic or links that are important to your Unit Plan
 - If you create your own wiki later, you can come back here and COPY-PASTE your work to your own wiki



Micro-Blogging; only 140 character messages



(Like how a bird “twitters”)

(Messages posted are called “tweets”)



dschmit @chadkafka - I'm not sure if the parameters fit, but you should checkout music.podshow.com. I've found some good stuff their for podcasting
8:05 PM Jan 26th from Tweetie in reply to chadkafka



Can't tell if I have the swine flu or just need a fresh air filter cartridge.
8:31 AM Apr 26th from Twitterrific



TechCrunch Twitter Reschedules Maintenance To Allow Iranian Protests To Continue <http://tcn.ch/3uv> by @parislemmon
about 2 hours ago from web



Tam117 Heading down to Chicago to a WNBA game tomorrow...any Chicago friends have a favorite place to eat near UIC?
about 3 hours ago from TweetDeck



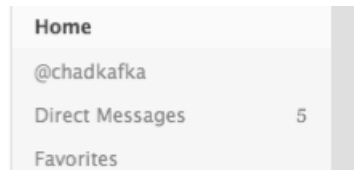
Photofocus Photofocus Podcast Episode #6 <http://is.gd/12Wz>
about 6 hours ago from Tweetie

When you create an account, you can FOLLOW people.

Their tweets
populate your main
page when you
login



You can send messages
DIRECTLY to another
Twitter user (*only you and
he/she sees*)



You can send a message
with @ followed by
username so everyone
sees the message you
sent to that user



- **Quick Facts** twitter In Education
 - Sending message to your followers to gather data
 - Ex: What's the weather where you are?
 - Ex: Instant feedback in classroom (college)
- **News**
 - Many news outlets publish their headlines
- **Sharing**
 - New websites, widgets, gadgets, interesting info
- **Celebrities**
 - Ugh.
- **Class Micro-Blog**
 - Updates about what's going on in your class
 - Twitpic.com allows for sending photos with tweets!

twitter Tips or "Twips" ☺

- Can use sites like tinyurl.com or bit.ly to shorten URLs so they fit
- Can use sites like <http://www.twitpic.com> to share photos in your messages
- Can add # (called a hash tag) before one word topic so those messages by all users are grouped for easy search
- NEW Search bar just added to right side to find info
- Easy to get on your cell phone